

Former student Fleet joins TJC staff

By CINDY POOL

Linda S. Fleet, a 1973 honor graduate of TJC, is the new director of alumni relations.

"The TJC Board of Trustees approved her appointment March 8 but it did not become effective until April 2," said Betty Nelson, of the office of information services and publications.

Fleet comes to TJC from Southside Bank where her duties include personnel, payroll and, lobby coordination. She was responsible for developing an insurance program, editing an in-house newspaper for bank employees and supervising new accounts and lock box departments.

As alumni director, Fleet will be striving to further the Alumni Association's primary goal. That goal, she said, is to "maintain and strengthen the bonds between the college and its alumni."

"TJC is 58 years old," Fleet said. "Through the years we have had many outstanding students here that are now outstanding alumni."

"We feel that these students are a tremendous resource, and we

want to strengthen the association between them and the college, she explained."

To strengthen the bond between TJC and its alumni, Fleet has many short and long term goals.

These include identifying and developing a record system to facilitate the organization of alumni and friends of TJC as well as identifying needs and defining purposes of the association.

"The pursuit of those purposes could well fall into four areas, which would serve as long term goals for the association," said Fleet.

"Those areas are: attracting quality students to TJC, serving students (scholarships, career planning and opportunities, and providing outlets for student service on and off campus), enhancing the college's image in the general community and involving and serving alumni," she said.

Fleet also discussed her role as alumni director.

"Any successful organization that is growing has a leadership group that recognizes and initiates

ways and opportunities to expand the usefulness and quality of the whole body. This is what I perceive to be the role of the Alumni Association and the Director of Alumni Relations," she said.

"By utilizing effective methods of informing and serv-



Alumni Director
Linda Fleet

ing alumni, the association fosters interest in TJC. This encourages continuing involvement and support, thus enhancing the image of TJC with students, alumni and the community as a whole," she said.

"The word alumni seems to carry a meaning of past," continued Fleet. "One of my goals is to give the word alumni an on-going active connotation."

"The first time a student enters TJC he or she is an alumnus. The more quality relationships a student enters into with the college, the greater the possibility of developing an active and supportive alumnus."

Fleet sees alumni relations as not only reaching back to recognize and honor the past, but as reaching into the on-going present.

"By joining hands of the past and present, we can realize the most complete sense of alumni resource development," she said.

TJC has all the necessary dynamics for development of the Alumni Association, said Fleet, "a good base of quality administration, and an existing

reputation of a quality and a stable institution."

Fleet now occupies an office in the Vaughn Library and Learning Resources Center.

After her first two weeks here she said that she is really impressed with the people at TJC.

"The faculty, staff and especially the students are all so friendly and helpful," she said. "I am really impressed with everyone's friendliness."

"The thing I am excited about is dealing with the people," Fleet said. "That's what an institution is, really is--the people who have been here and the people who are here now--not the buildings."

Fleet is a member of the American Institute of Banking, the Oil Center Chapter, an associate member on the board of directors of the American Institute of Banking and editor of the Oil Center Chapter newsletter, The Pipeline.

She is married to Robert Fleet, Ramey Elementary School principal. They have two sons, Gary and Randy, students at Abilene Christian University.

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News Briefs

Dean corrects sign-up date

OOPS! Students planning to enroll in Summer School I will register June 1, said Admissions Dean Kenneth Lewis. The date was incorrectly reported in the previous issue of the News.

Browne to speak at graduation

To many students, May 15 will be a special day.

Students who initially did not plan on participating in the commencement ceremonies may still go by the Registrar's Office and be fitted for a cap and gown, said Registrar Mary Kathryn Neill.

Commencement exercises will be at 7:30 p.m. May 15 in Wagstaff Gymnasium. Dr. Jean S. Browne, fine arts division director is the commencement speaker. Browne is the first faculty member to ever be main speaker at the commencement exercises. TJC President Dr. Raymond M. Hawkins will preside as marshal of the graduation ceremonies.

Graduates include 632 degree candidates and 41 candidates for proficiency certificates, Neill said.

Rehearsal for graduation was at 9 a.m. this morning in Wagstaff Gym. Commencement instructions for students who did not attend the rehearsal are available in the Registrar's Office.

Job fair to advise graduates

The annual Health Science Program Job Fair from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. May 1 in Wagstaff Gymnasium is part of the Health Science Division placement service.

It gives the graduating student a better perspective about benefits and salaries of prospective employers, said Viola Benavides, health sciences education division director.

Employment representatives for hospitals and agencies in Tyler and the surrounding area will set up displays and distribute brochures about plans and benefits. They will have the opportunity to meet about 150 prospective graduates from respiratory therapy, medical laboratory technology, radiologic technology, associate degree nursing and vocational nursing programs as well as freshman students who may attend.

"We are anticipating participation by as many as 50 hospitals and agencies from our area and Shreveport," Benavides said.

Dance ends Western Week

A formal dance finishing off Western Week festivities will be at 8:30 p.m. Saturday at the Knights of Columbus Hall on WSW Loop 323, said Student Activities Coordinator Emma Lou Prater. Everyone is invited.

The place was erroneously reported in the last issue of the News.

Division faculty plans reception to honor outstanding students

A May 2 reception in the Student Center will honor students of high achievement in English, journalism and foreign languages.

"We have had a Communications Honors Reception since the college-wide honors association was cancelled because it became too large as the student body grew, said Communications Division Director Mary Waldrop.

"The awards ceremony is intended to be a positive statement about the students' accomplishments at TJC," Waldrop said.

Parents and friends of the honored students are invited to the informal reception and the awards presentation.

Outstanding students in English include: Cheryl Barnett, Gay Lynn Bishop, David Eugene Bates, Tamie Gail Cooper, Alice L. Campbell, Cela Cuniff, Stephanie Fowler and Elsie Marie Graham.

Other English honorees include Betty Helt, Lycia K. Hicks, Kathy Lynn Isaacks, Sharon Jenkins, Deborah K. Marcontell, Dianna McAnally, Debbie Parpart, Karen Sanders, Debra Wiersig and James Webb.

English awards honor those who have made straight As in all the English courses they have taken while at TJC, Waldrop said.

Spanish Instructor John Hayes will present the Spanish outstanding students awards to: Sarah Beth Cherry, Robert Wayne Dockery, Jody Ann White and Tracy Scott Figueira.

Several journalism students

will receive awards and scholarships.

A representative of the T.B. Butler Publishing Company will present two awards.

TJC News Editor Elaine Reichard will receive the Gold Key and Internship. This award carries a summer internship with the Tyler Courier Times and Morning Telegraph.

Virginia Ann Cayard will receive the T.B. Butler Scholarship.

Corporate Communications Manager Bob Bowman of Delta Drilling Co. will present the TJC Journalism Exes plaque to News Editor Michael Mitchell.

Student Publications Director Linda Zeigler will present other

journalism awards and scholarships.

The Tom Anderson Jr. Scholarships of \$150 for use in the fall semester as sophomores go to five students. They are: Susan Diane Dickerson, Jeanette M. Kress, John Timothy Scott, Beverly A. Woods and Tatia S. Rogers.

The Carl Wallace \$100 scholarship will go to J. Emmitte Hall.

Janet Tatum will receive the Marguerite Hercules Scholarship.

News Editor Rochelle Jackson-Doucet will receive a certificate of appreciation.

Linda Hawkins and Cindy Pool will be recognized as honor students.

Bookstore prepares to buy back books

Students may sell used textbooks back the the TJC Bookstore in the Student Center or to College Books on Baxter Street. Both buy books in good condition if the book is to be used again at TJC.

Although both stores buy books year round, they require a class drop slip be shown unless it is near the end of a semester. College Books will begin buying texts May 7 from students completing courses during exam week.

"We request that students sign their names and show IDs to insure that they are not selling someone else's textbook, said College Books Manager Carroll Thompson.

Books that are torn up and workbooks that have been written in will not be bought, TJC Bookstore Manager Vivian Story said.

Buy-back price for books in good condition is usually half the purchase price at both stores. A book that is usable but in poorer condition may be bought at lower prices.

A used book company representative will be in the Student Center May 8-9 outside the TJC Bookstore windows. He will buy some books that the bookstore cannot buy because TJC no longer uses them, Story said.

Hart campaigns in Tyler

By LINDA HAWKINS

Colorado Senator Gary Hart included Tyler on a two-day Texas campaign tour last Week. In a noon speech at the downtown

square, the Democratic presidential hopeful told approximately 300 citizens that the contest is not between Hart and Mondale, but between the past and future of the Democratic Party.



photo by elaine reichard

Belles Bambi Medley and Laura Martin welcome Sen. Gary Hart before his campaign address on the downtown Square.

Tyler Junior College News

Tyler Junior College News, official newspaper of Tyler Junior College, is published every Thursday, except during holidays and examinations, by the journalism classes.

Tyler Junior College News is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press, the Texas Junior Collegiate Press and the Texas Junior College Press Association.

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Elaine Reichard
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It is not between Hart and Reagan, but the past and future of our country, he said.

Prior to the speech, Hart's Texas campaign co-chairman U.S. Rep. Martin Frost of Dallas explained the Democratic caucus to be at 7:15 p.m. May 5 after the primary election.

Frost urged voters to return to precinct meetings and sign in for their choice for Democratic presidential candidate.

State Sen. Ted Lyon introduced Hart, drawing applause when he mentioned the Equal Rights Amendment and Hart's plans to eliminate discrimination.

After receiving kisses and yellow roses from Apache Belles Bambi Medley and Laura Martin and a key to the city from new Mayor Charles Halstead, Hart appealed for help from area voters saying, "We cannot move backwards. The country cannot stand four more years of Reaganomics for the rich."

"We must have a president with the courage to say 'no' to industrial leaders wanting to be bailed out and to powerful labor unions whose policies could cost Texans their farms," he declared.

"We must have a president who knows defense. We cannot continue to slip down the slope to nuclear war and annihilation of our children. That must stop," he said as many in the crowd applauded enthusiastically.

"The American flag does not belong to Ronald Reagan or the right wing of the Republican Party. It belongs to all of us," Hart shouted in an emotional appeal.

Other priorities Hart listed were making education the nation's No. 1 priority, becoming the No. 1 trading nation on earth, restoring funds for the lunch programs and guaranteed student loans; resuming our commitment to civil rights for everyone and ratification of the ERA amendment.

Hart spent several minutes shaking hands with voters, signing autographs and visiting with children in the crowd before departing.



photo by elaine reichard

ABOVE-Apache Band Director Jack Smith (left) and Music Instructor Frank Kimlicko (top) were part of the Dixieland Band that entertained on the Square.

BELOW-Placard carrier seeks recognition.

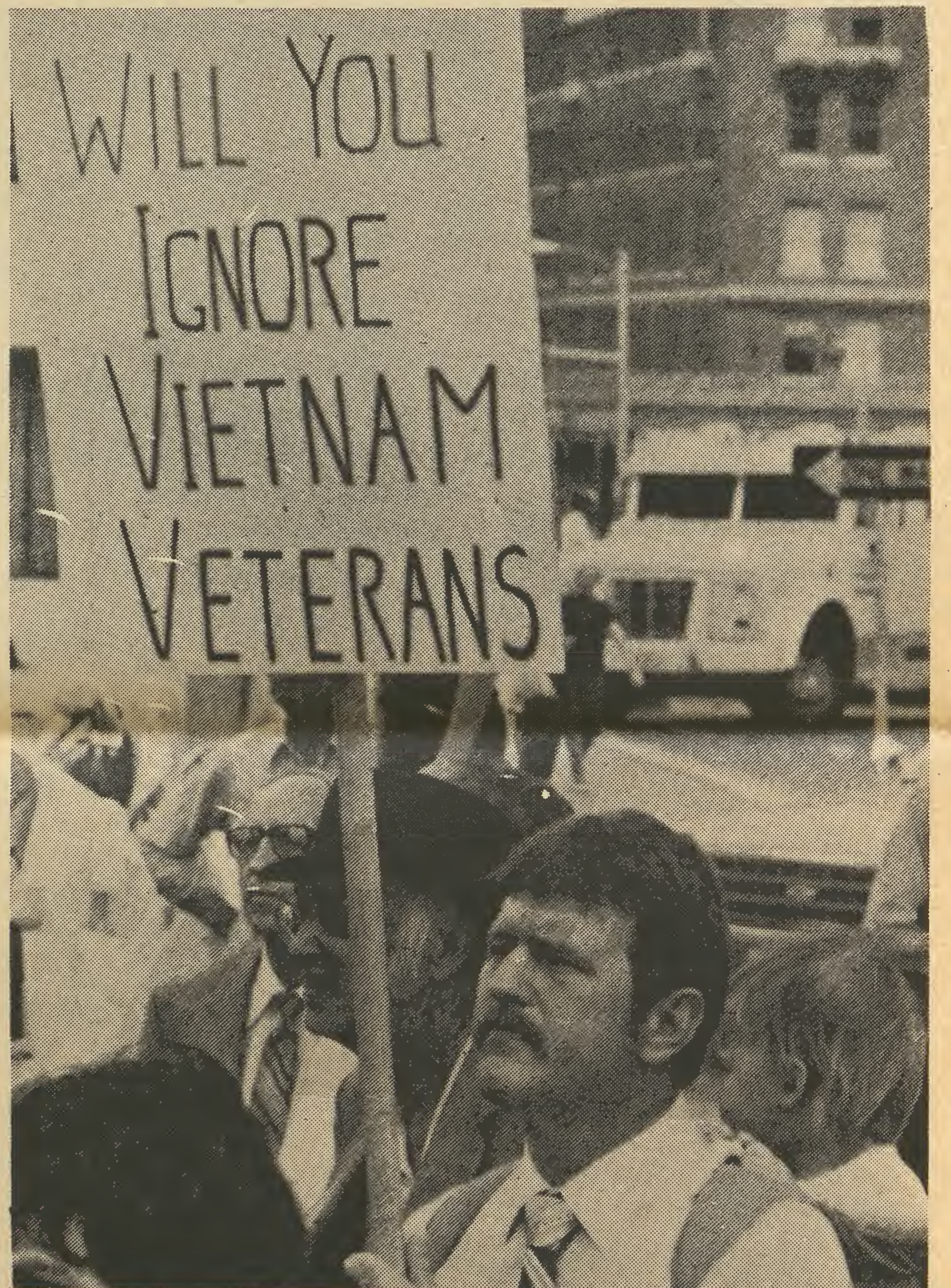


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Perspective shifts when students join press

By LINDA HAWKINS

Attending a first presidential campaign speech is an interesting experience. Attending as a reporter viewing a political rally from the press platform for the first time is both unique and mind-boggling.

How would a professional journalist focus on one aspect with so many to consider? How to capture the candidate, the speech, the crowd, the atmosphere, the response?

First confrontation is with Secret Service agents. They have already run a security check before press passes were issued.

Now they search purses and camera cases before allowing those with passes past the ropes and onto the press platform. The immaculately groomed men of various ages in conservative suits with small red, white and blue lapel pins are everywhere.

You wonder how much all this is costing you the taxpayer and feels sad that it is necessary.

A gray-haired agent on the speaker's platform reminds you of a calm but intent spectator watching a tennis match in slow motion--wary, trying to be inconspicuous with his roving eyes and semi-smile, wasting no body motion. When the candidate arrives, he moves to a ground-level position and is replaced by an agent with a radio earphone.

Looking up, you have an eerie feeling as you spot tiny men with binoculars and radios silhouetted in the tall, suddenly sinister, black bank tower. Behind are two others atop the courthouse.

You wonder if the small plane flying over is also a part of surveillance.

A nice-looking young man in a business suit is standing just below you. When he puts his hand in his pocket, the bullets in his belt catch the sun's glint. You think that somehow bullets don't belong on that clean-cut youth.

You wonder what it is like to spend your days watching and waiting for a weapon or a suspicious person, knowing that,

despite your vigilance, a crackpot or a terrorist someday may sneak by and wound or assassinate a president or a candidate.

During preliminary ceremonies, complete with speeches, Dixieland band, Boy Scouts and Apache Belles, you note the professional reporters, photographers and television news teams on the platform with you--a fresh and pretty young woman in plaid dress and twist beads from Channel 6, a handsome young man from Channel 12, a seedy-looking veteran, an impatient cameraman shouting, "Sign down! Sign down!" to a placard-waving supporter in front of the stand.

And then there is the candidate's speech. You are reminded of a man opening a box of those dog biscuits that come in several shapes and flavors. A little treat for every taste. Nothing terribly substantial though.

A treat for the poor, the dissatisfied middle class: "We cannot stand four more years of Reaganomics for the rich," he said.

A tidbit called "old versus new" for the young and progressive.

A taste for doves and those who fear all things nuclear.

A bite for the worker; then one for the anti-union man--union activity could ultimately cost Texans their farms, he said.

Now throw out "No. 1 trading nation" to the businessmen. Then a morsel for those in education and a small but tasty nugget for proponents of civil and women's rights.

Don't expect an instant, full meal, voter--just a chewy morsel to clean your teeth on.

Later you watch TV reporters facing cameras four feet away, voicing their reports into hand-held mikes, apparently oblivious to the crowd, the noise and the movement all about them.

As the candidate prepares to depart, newsmen carrying pads or shouldering cameras scramble for

a van and the back of a pick-up which move out to follow the caravan.

A fellow-student reporter sighs, "Just think, one day I'll be

Then you leap from the platform (the steps collapsed just before the speech) and join the crowd still milling about.

That crowd around the plat-

housewives, students, very few Hispanics. White collars slightly outnumber blue at the noon rally.

As the subdued crowd warms to the candidate's charisma, you notice the vocal "amens" come

mostly from women, especially young ones. You wonder what brought out all those young mothers pushing strollers, carrying babies in slings, leading older children by the hand, some pushing youngsters forward for autographs when the candidate comes near to smile and touch and write an angular GARY on scraps of paper.

Are they attracted by his youth, charm and good looks? Do they want to say, "I touched Gary Hart?" But wouldn't that be irrelevant if he should lose? Or do they believe in the man and his stand on the issues?

Do these young mothers like his pro-choice abortion stand? They applauded his insistence on ERA amendment passage. They liked his education emphasis and his plan to return aid for free lunches and student loans.

His defense and nuclear arms stands brought approval. Perhaps issues do count.

On campaign trail

Cars raise questions

Trivia question.

The cars transporting Gary Hart and his entourage from the downtown rally bore Washington, D.C. license plates. How did they get to Tyler, Texas?

A campaigner who travels from St. Louis and Indiana to Amarillo, Lubbock, Wichita Falls, Austin and then to Tyler in 48 hours has to fly, doesn't he?

Does he own enough cars to have them strategically located about the country? Or does he own them at all? Do we? Do all candidates have their own auto fleets?

Perhaps campaign advance men scurry from the plane with screwdrivers to replace local plates with D.C. tags on cars borrowed for Hart's use at each stop. But would that be legal?

Or maybe armies of little men drive fleets of cars around the country, rushing to beat the plane to the next campaign stop.

Or could the cars be discharged at conveniently located airports from the gaping bellies of giant cargo planes?

One wonders.

one of them--but I can see I'll have to learn to be more aggressive."

form under the flagpole consists of businessmen and women, black and white, laborers,

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Kniffen calls resigning 'toughest decision' ever

By CINDY POOL

Tennis coach and physical education instructor since 1973, Fred Kniffen has resigned to become tennis pro-manager at Rose Park Tennis Center in Abilene starting June 1.

"Resigning from TJC was the toughest decision I ever had to make," said Kniffen, as he clasped his hands behind his head and leaned back in his chair.

His office is cluttered with half-packed boxes of mementos from his 11 years at TJC. Still to be packed are the many championship plaques and trophies that TJC's tennis teams won under his leadership.

Since Kniffen came, TJC tennis teams have risen to national prominence, boasting 15 national rankings, 21 All-American players and several Texas Eastern Athletic Conference honors.

Kniffen, who was tennis coach for Cooper High School and teaching pro manager for Rose Park Tennis Center in Abilene before coming to Tyler, was named National Junior College Women's Coach of the Year in 1983 and Men's Coach of the Year in 1980.

Recognition for TJC tennis includes No. 2 national rankings for the men and women in 1982, No. 2 for men and No. 7 for women in 1981 and No. 1 for men and No. 2 for women in 1980.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed TJC--the job here, and the friends my family and I have made in Tyler. Leaving was a tough decision, and I have some regrets," Kniffen said.

"But," he continued, "I am looking forward to my new position. There is a lot of opportunity at the municipal center to reach all types of people. I feel that with my experience gained working with students here, I can carry back some of the things I've learned and not only be a tennis teacher, but maybe have some influence on the kids and the lives they live."

While at TJC Kniffen initiated a Fellowship of Christian Athletes organization which met from 1976 until last semester.

"I feel like we've helped a lot of students through FCA," he said. "According to the feedback from parents, the FCA meetings gave some students stability and something to plant their feet on while away from home."

Kniffen is a self-proclaimed

"family man." He and his wife Caroline have three daughters and one son, all tennis players of course.

Their oldest daughter Janet played for her father at TJC and was All-American on the national doubles championship team.

Judy, a junior at Abilene Christian University, was also an All-American and a member of the national championship team last year.

J-Lynn is a junior at Robert E. Lee High School and son Dale is a freshman there.

"My family and I wish to express our appreciation to TJC and the citizens of Tyler for 10 excellent years. We have been treated with the highest respect a family could receive, and we will always have great memories of our stay in Tyler, Kniffen said at the time the Board of Trustees accepted his resignation.

In 1979, the women's tennis team ranked fourth nationally. Other national rankings include No. 4 for men and No. 5 for women in 1977, No. 3 for men and No. 5 for men in 1976 and No. 3 for women and No. 5 for men in 1975.

TJC was TEAC runner-up in 1978. In 1976 the women's team won Regional XIV Championship and the men's team was third in

the region. In 1974 and 1975 the teams were TEAC runners-up.

Kniffen's philosophy of coaching includes "providing varying opportunities for student athletes in order to maximize their full potential."

"I encourage my teams to be academically oriented and to recognize the importance of a college education," he said.

Some highlights of his years here have included winning national championships in both men's and women's divisions, having his own daughters play for him and forming the FCA, Kniffen said.

"I don't know that there are any real low points, besides some discipline problems," he said. "That's the toughest part of the job--I won't miss having to discipline students."

As for next year, Kniffen said the Board is in the process of hiring a new coach. The teams will be losing five women and two men.

"I'm not sure what direction the program and the team will go," he said. "I feel that the administration is behind the program and will hire a coach that will continue with one of the best programs in the country."

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